



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE COUNTY

BOROUGH OF DUDLEY

FOR THE YEAR 1919

AND OF THE

## CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

---

DUDLEY :

PRINTED AT THE HERALD PRESS

1920

## COUNTY BOROUGH OF DUDLEY.

POPULATION		1891 Census	...	45,740
,,		1901 Census	...	48,525
,,		1911 Census	...	51,079
,,		1912 Estimated at end		
		of June, 1912	...	51,466
,,		1913, estimated	...	51,966
,,		1914, estimated	...	52,580
,,		1915, estimated	...	52,580
,,		1916, estimated	...	52,580
,,		1917, estimated	...	54,000
,,		1918, estimated	...	54,000
,,		1919, estimated	...	54,000
ELEVATION	{	Cawney Hill	... 820 feet above sea level.	
		St. Thomas' Church	700	,, ,,
		Eve Hill	... 720	,, ,,
		Netherton	... 610	,, ,,
		Woodside	... 570	,, ,,
Geological Formation ... Limestone, Carboniferous & Heavy Clays				
Area of the Borough		... ..	3,602 acres	
Number of Inhabited Houses, Census, 1911		... ..	10,957	
Birth Rate, 1919		... ..	24.2	
Nett Death Rate, 1919		... ..	13.44	
Death Rate from 7 principle Zymotic Diseases		...	.7	
Influenza Death Rate		... ..	.57	
Death Rate under 1 year age per 1,000 Births		...	103.3	
Total Deaths under 5 years of age		... ..	224	

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE  
COUNTY BOROUGH OF DUDLEY.

---

*To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee  
of the County Borough of Dudley.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to you my Annual Report upon the Health and Vital Statistics for the year ending December 31st, 1919.

In conformity with Circular 66, issued by the Ministry of Health in January of this year (1920), a considerably more elaborate report by Medical Officers of Health is called for than was possible during the war period, and an attempt has been made to follow the Ministry's directions on this point.

As your first whole-time Medical Officer of Health I commenced duty in Dudley on April 5th. A considerable portion of my time has been taken in endeavouring to organize the work of the Health Department according to present-day requirements.

With the appointment of an Assistant School Medical Officer and Assistant Medical Officer of Health, the work of the department should be enabled to be carried out satisfactorily. At the same time, considering that Dr. Wilkinson, my predecessor, was only able to give part of his energies to the work, I found the department in a high state of efficiency.

## VITAL STATISTICS

### POPULATION.

I have based my estimate of population upon the Food Control Census and exodus of young men demobilised from the Forces. I am of opinion from the Statistical data available, that the population is about 54,000, and I have calculated my returns upon this figure.

### BIRTHS.

The Birth Rate for 1919 was 24.2, as compared with 25.09 for the previous year, so there is again a slight falling off in the Birth Rate, but it is to be expected that with a Return to Peace conditions and demobilization, the Birth Rate will soon show a substantial increase.

The total number of Births notified to the Medical Officer of Health under the Notification of Births Act, was 1,072, of which number medical practitioners notified 273 Births, Midwives 772, Parents 5, and Health Visitors 22.

During the year the Health Visitors have done an enormous amount of work of a routine character, the details of which are given separately.

318 Births were notified by the Registrar, which had not been previously notified, and it is obvious that a large percentage of Births are not notified. It is difficult to assign a cause for this failure to notify, but as there is a penalty for non-notification, it will be absolutely necessary for some further action to be taken by the Health Committee unless there is an improvement in this direction. Of the 318, 83 refer to 1918.

Of the total number of births registered for Dudley, 677 were males and 630 females,

The Birth Rates for Dudley in recent years have been :—

Year		Total Births		Birth Rate per 1,000
1893	...	1,698	...	37.10
1894	...	1,685	...	36.03
1895	...	1,739	...	38
1896	...	1,739	...	38
1897	...	1,735	...	36.01
1898	...	1,739	...	35.72
1899	...	1,800	...	36.35
1900	...	1,695	...	32.85
1901	...	1,741	...	35.73
1902	...	1,752	...	35.73
1903	...	1,691	...	33.93
1904	...	1,779	...	35.18
1905	...	1,593	...	30.99
1906	...	1,552	...	29.73
1907	...	1,637	...	31.34
1908	...	1,610	...	30.26
1909	...	1,554	...	28.61
1910	...	1,476	...	27.17
1911	...	1,414	...	27.50
1912	...	1,432	...	27.84
1913	...	1,470	...	28.28
1914	...	1,502	...	28.56
1915	...	1,460	...	27.69
1916	...	1,297	...	24.67
1917	...	1,394	...	25.81
1918	...	1,355	...	25.09
1919	...	1,307	...	24.2

## DEATHS.

The total number of Deaths registered in Dudley during 1919 was 726, or 13.44 per thousand of the population, after correction by deducting deaths of 42 non-residents, and the addition of 69 deaths of Dudley people dying away from home.

The Death Rate in England and Wales, from all causes, in 1919, was 13.8, while Dudley, with one of 13.44, compared very favourably with the Country as a whole.

The Annual Death Rate in the Borough for the past 22 years is appended.

Year				Death Rate
1898	...	...	...	23.17
1899	...	...	...	20.51
1900	...	...	...	20.45
1901	...	...	...	19.25
1902	...	...	...	17.54
1903	...	...	...	19.17
1904	...	...	...	18.82
1905	...	...	...	17.52
1906	...	...	...	16.23
1907	...	...	...	17.32
1908	...	...	...	15.28
1909	...	...	...	15.24
1910	...	...	...	14.25
1911	...	...	...	15.69
1912	...	...	...	15.48
1913	...	...	...	17.53
1914	...	...	...	16.0
1915	...	...	...	16.31
1916	...	...	...	14.97
1917	...	...	...	13.70
1918	...	...	...	18.25
1919	...	...	...	13.44

## MONTHLY DEATH RATE FROM ALL CAUSES.

The Monthly Death Rates from all causes for the past 10 years is given below, but deaths of residents dying away from home are not included, as the figures were not available when the Monthly Reports were presented. Non-residents have been excluded, so the rates are corrected for actual deaths in Dudley.

	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919
January .	14'90	13'4	18'20	16'34	18'0	16'71	17'06	17'01	10'83	14'63
February	17'23	15'03	25'79	13'64	13'51	17'25	14'64	17'55	14'4	19'25
March ...	14'36	16'03	14'41	17'42	18'01	14'63	16'56	17'3	13'77	19'5
April ..	15'03	14'33	10'31	15'15	21'01	22'90	14'09	19'77	13'48	21'26
May ...	12'44	10'6	16'43	13'89	17'01	16'32	17'4	16'4	15'21	14'8
June ...	12'2	10'43	8'14	16'16	12'4	12'06	14'83	10'13	9'61	7'2
Ju. & Aug.	22'63	13'49	9'27	13'4	9'54	10'38	9'49	8'92	10'4	8'0
September	11'46	17'04	12'43	18'51	11'69	8'9	7'9	8'81	13'96	7'9
October ..	10'29	20'35	8'0	14'31	9'52	13'84	10'9	8'24	14'0	10'9
November	12'44	9'5	11'25	15'73	14'32	15'32	10'38	9'81	10'47	7'5
December	11'48	16'28	9'85	16'76	14'09	18'05	12'36	10'83	25'27	11'1

Infant Mortality.—The Deaths registered under one year of age were 138 in number, and the number of Births was 1,307. The Infantile Mortality Rate is 105.5, which is a considerable decrease upon the previous year, when the figure was 132.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

### ENTERIC FEVER.

Two cases of Typhoid or Enteric Fever were notified during the year, both in young boys. One occurred in St. James' Ward, the other in St. Thomas' Ward. One was removed to the Borough Hospital, and both made a good recovery. In one case a similar illness had occurred in a brother, who when I saw him had almost recovered from the convalescent stage, removal to Hospital prevented any further illness in the house. The other boy had been taken with his mother to a farm in Worcestershire for the hop-picking; it would seem as if the boy contracted the disease there. A communication was sent to the Medical Officer of Health of the district; on their return to Dudley the other hop-pickers were visited in their homes, but fortunately none of their contacts suffered with Typhoid Fever.

## DYSENTERY CARRIERS.

During the year three Dysentery Carriers have been notified. In each case the patient has been visited and warned of the necessity of carrying out the instructions given him before leaving hospital. By Article XIII. of the Public Health (Pneumonia, Malaria, Dysentery, etc.) Regulations, 1919, the employment of a Dysentery Carrier in any trade or business concerned with the preparation or handling of food or drink for human consumption can be prohibited by the Medical Officer of Health.

Arrangements have been made for visiting these carriers at three-monthly intervals, to see that they are not sources of spread of infection, even in the home, where there is equally a danger of spread of disease to the other inmates, if they take part in the preparation or handling of any food or drink for persons other than themselves.

Article XV. of the Regulations confers similar powers in the case of Enteric Carriers, including under this heading carriers of Typhoid or Paratyphoid Fevers.

## DIPHTHERIA.

Eight cases of Diphtheria were notified, as compared with 6 in the previous year. Injection of Anti-toxin was resorted to in 3 cases; 2 deaths occurred, 1 in St. James' Ward and the other in Woodside Ward, and the cases were mild in type.

A supply of Anti-toxin is kept in stock at the Sanitary Office, and supplied to Medical men on request, free of charge. It is necessary to use this remedy immediately to obtain the best result, and precious time is lost if it has to be procured from London.

Of the 8 notified cases of Diphtheria, 1 occurred in Castle Ward, 2 in St. James', 3 in Woodside Ward, and 2 in Netherton Ward.

## DIARRHŒA AND ENTERITIS.

Ten deaths were registered from these diseases during the year, as compared with 25 in the previous year; 5 of these were under the age of one year; 1 between one and two years; 1 was between 2 and 5; 1 between 15 and 25; of the 10 deaths, 1 was located in St. Thomas' Ward, 5 in St. John's Ward, 2 in Nether-ton Ward, and 2 in Woodside Ward.

It must be borne in mind, however, that the climatic conditions during the third quarter of the past year were against the occurrence of infantile diarrhœa; the temperature was cool, and there were many rainy days.

A leaflet on Summer Diarrhœa was prepared and widely distributed.

The mortality figure for Diarrhœa and Enteritis in 1919 was .18 per thousand.

## SCARLET FEVER.

Again it is to be reported that Scarlet Fever statistics were more favourable than in previous years, for during the whole of 1919 only 24 cases of this disease were notified, and no death occurred.

## PHTHISIS.

The total number of cases of Tuberculosis notified was 27, of which 24 were cases of Lung Disease, the other 3 were cases of Tubercular Glands in the neck and Tubercular Abdominal disease; in the previous year 40 cases of Lung Disease were notified, therefore there is a considerable improvement in this direction, if all the cases which occurred have been notified; there is also an improvement in the mortality figure, for only 48 persons died from Tubercular Lung Diseases, in 1919, as compared with 50 in the previous year.

During the past year the Joint Tuberculosis Committee have increased their Sanatorium accommodation by opening a new institution at Prestwood Hall for ordinary cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and at Kinver for advanced cases. The value of

removing advanced cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis from the home to an institution is very considerable; during the later stages of the disease the expectoration is increased, and the opportunities of infecting others correspondingly increased. The Joint Committee is also considering the provision of accommodation for children suffering from Tuberculosis, either surgical or pulmonary; an increase in the number of the only too few institutions available for children suffering from Tuberculosis is very welcome.

During the year a number of delicate children were again sent to the Open-air School at Malvern, and all derived benefit from their stay. For the first time the School has been opened this year in the winter.

Closer co-ordination between the work of our Health Department and the Tuberculosis Dispensary has been attempted during the past year. The Health Visitors visit in the homes cases of Tuberculosis, both among insured and uninsured persons, referred to them by the Tuberculosis Dispensary, and report on the environmental conditions; the information obtained is entered on the cards kept at the Health Department, and is available when the patient is re-visited. The object of these visits is to ensure that the patients are making the best use possible of their living accommodation; they are advised, if possible, to sleep in a separate bedroom, and to take the necessary precautions with their sputum. Any nuisances likely to depress still further the patient's health are reported to the Chief Sanitary Inspector, who deals with them. At the same time enquiries are made as to the health of other occupants of the house, and any appropriate advice as to the need of seeing a doctor given.

The notification of the admission and discharge from Sanatoria enables the Health Visitor to plan her visits to the homes.

When a death occurs from Tuberculosis the Tuberculosis Officer is notified.

Fortunately the opportunities for co-ordination between the Tuberculosis Officer and the Medical Officer of Health will shortly be very considerably increased, by the Tuberculosis Dispensary being removed to "The Firs."

The Tuberculosis Officer can assist in the selection of children for the Open-air School; a number of the children attending the Inspection Clinic can be easily referred to him for examination, in consultation with the School Medical Staff; the fitness for attendance at School of children about whom there might be some doubt can be adjudicated; irregular attendance at the Tuberculosis Dispensary of any children can be enquired into by the School Nurses or Health Visitors.

The total Deaths from Phthisis during the past 18 years have been :—

Year	Total Phthisis Deaths		
1902	...	...	54
1903	...	...	52
1904	...	...	43
1905	...	...	45
1906	...	...	41
1907	...	...	42
1908	...	...	46
1909	...	...	47
1910	...	...	38
1911	...	...	24
1912	...	...	28
1913	...	...	49
1914	...	...	36
1915	...	...	52
1916	...	...	50
1917	...	...	62
1918	...	...	50
1919	...	...	48

### MEASLES.

Measles has continued to be epidemic during 1919, but has not been attended with the degree of mortality experienced in previous years. During 1919 the notified cases of Measles numbered 663, as compared with 556 in the previous year. During the past year, 1919, 11 deaths were registered from

Measles, while in the previous year 11 deaths occurred from this cause, so that although there have been a considerable number of cases, mortality from Measles has been low. The Health Visitors have visited nearly all the notified cases. I am of opinion that the decreased Mortality from Measles is attributable largely to the increased care which the people now take when their children are attacked, the visits of the Health Visitors have certainly done much to insure this increased amount of care.

### **BOROUGH ISOLATION HOSPITAL.**

Two cases of Enteric have been treated in the Hospital during the year. It is always ready for any emergency case, and all the public disinfection of clothing and bedding is done there by the Steam Disinfector.

To carry out the medical work efficiently for each of the three major committees—Health, Education and Maternity and Child Welfare—Laboratory work is necessary. The examination of throat swabs from children suspected of, or in contact with, Diphtheria, sputum for tubercle bacilli, blood for Typhoid Fever, and discharges for gonococci, the preliminary examination of dead foetuses, are essential parts of the work of any modern Health Department; Ringworm has very often to be searched for with the microscope; the examination of the urine of expectant women is an important feature of antenatal hygiene. The examination of Milk to determine the proportion of dirt present is the scientific basis of all work to ensure a clean milk supply to the town, and would be perhaps the most important piece of work carried out in the Laboratory. There should be no difficulty in finding a suitable place at “The Firs” for such a Laboratory.

The Health Committee during the summer engaged the services of a Lecturer on the Staff of the National Council for Combatting Venereal Disease. He was at work in the town for a fortnight, and during that time addressed some 800 workmen at the various works, including those of Messrs. Harper, Sons and Bean; Thompson; Stourbridge Fire-Clay Company; Danks; Mobberley and Perry; Hingley, and those of His Worship the

Mayor, of Councillor Smart, and of Messrs. Newey and Homer. As in practically all these cases the lectures were given in two-thirds of the firms' time and one-third of the men's, thanks are due to these gentlemen for their contribution towards the Health Committee's effort to prevent Venereal Disease. Literature was distributed after the lectures.

I accompanied the lecturer to one of the works; the audience were interested in the address; questions were asked by several of the audience, and I have no doubt that the lecture was useful.

A Meeting of Ministers of Religion of the Borough of all denominations was held at the Vicarage, Dudley, at which the lecturer and I attended. Subsequently, at the instance of a leading clergyman of the town, copies of the pamphlets issued by the National Council, which were thought to be especially of use to clergymen, were sent to all the clergy and ministers in the Borough.

Arrangements have been made for similar lectures in 1920, but these will be delivered to women and girls at the works and girl clubs.

### MIDWIVES' ACTS.

There are 15 Midwives (8 trained, 7 untrained) who practice in Dudley, but only 5 trained and 4 untrained reside within the Borough. Of the trained Midwives, 4 are subsidised by the Corporation; this represents an increase of 2 subsidised. One of these Midwives formerly resided outside the Borough, and obtained part of her practice from Hart's Hill and Woodside; now she resides in the town, and devotes her services entirely to residents in the Borough. We have to thank His Worship the Mayor (Councillor T. W. Adshead) for providing a temporary residence (rent free) in order to enable this lady to move into the town. The other Midwife has been appointed to Netherton, and is entirely new to the town. These appointments were only filled after repeated advertisements. The Chairman of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee (Councillor A. Young, J.P.) has taken a keen

interest in the appointments, and it is owing largely to his exertions that accommodation has been found for these ladies enabling them to take up work in the Borough. Another trained Midwife has come to reside in Dudley. The Health Department has done everything possible to inform the public that these Midwives' services are available.

154 Routine visits have been paid to Midwives by the Health Visitors.

The total number of cases attended during 1919 by Midwives was 795, the number of cases in which a Midwife called in a doctor as far as we know was 39. The causes for calling in a doctor were as follows :—

Transverse Presentation	...	...	3
Ruptured Perineum	...	...	2
Adherent Placenta	...	...	1
Contracted Pelvis	...	...	2
Ante Partum Haemorrhage	...	...	1
Post Partum Haemorrhage	...	...	3
Acute Rheumatism	...	...	1
Congenital Malformation	...	...	1
Eclampsia	...	...	1
High Temperature	...	...	1
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	2
Difficult Labour	...	...	17
Premature Births	...	...	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	1
			—
Total	...	...	39

In seven cases a doctor has sent in an account to the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee; in one case the whole of the amount has been recovered, and in another part has been paid. £12 1s. 6d. has been paid by the Corporation, of which £2 12s. 6d. has been recovered.

On two afternoons the trained and untrained Midwives practising in the Borough were invited to the Town Hall, in order that the new regulations of the Central Midwives' Board, requiring

a Midwife to notify the Medical Officer of Health of an intended change from breast to artificial feeding, might be explained, and the advantages of breast feeding pointed out. The opportunity was taken of explaining leaflets on ante-natal hygiene and the feeding of infants, which had just been drawn up and printed, and the Midwives were asked to distribute these leaflets on the appropriate occasions. The Midwives' stock of these leaflets is renewed by the Health Visitors.

On several occasions I have interviewed Midwives for failing to carry out the rules of the Central Midwives' Board, especially for failing to send to the Health Department a record of sending for medical help. In too many instances the cause of sending for help is not clearly indicated; as these are all clearly laid down in the printed rules of the Central Midwives' Board there can be no excuse, especially as we have informed the Midwives that they may obtain from us copies of the rules free of cost. But the source of the trouble is the inability of several of the Midwives to read and write; they have to depend upon the patients or patients' friends or their own relations to do the necessary writing; the result is that the returns are either irregular or not made at all.

Any midwife who cannot read or write is incapable of carrying out one of the most important means of detecting Puerperal Fever in its early stage. The rules of the Central Midwives' Board require that the Midwife shall take and record the pulse and temperature of the patient at each visit, entering her records in a notebook or on charts, which must be carefully preserved. The objects of this rule is to enable the Midwife to know when she must send for medical help; if a rise of temperature occurs above 100.4° F with quickening of the pulse for more than twenty-four hours, another rule requires that the Midwife must summon medical help.

A Midwife has been suspended and reported to the Central Midwives' Board for failing to send for medical help in a case when there was such a rise of temperature and quickened pulse rate. The case was discovered by the Health Visitor during the course of one of her routine visits, and it is alleged that the Midwife ridiculed the idea of medical help being necessary; she admits

sending the patient some pills and motherwort to make tea, both these remedies being obtained from a herbalist. No record of sending for medical help was sent to the Health Office. She unfortunately, at the same time, attended a case of difficult labor (Contracted Pelvis) with a doctor, requiring delivery with instruments; this patient died within a few days of Puerperal Fever.

These untrained Midwives have been allowed to practice since 1902, when many of them were middle aged women, who might reasonably have been considered capable of acquiring the necessary knowledge to fulfil the requirements of the Central Midwives' Board. Time has shown that in many instances this hope has not been fulfilled; as soon as trained Midwives are available to fill their places it is to be hoped that the Central Midwives' Board will be in a position to remove these unsatisfactory untrained Midwives from the roll. At the same time it must be recognised that requests to remove the name of a Midwife from the roll on general grounds of illiteracy and temporary suspensions by a Local Authority until there are trained Midwives ready to take their place would, in all probability, merely result in a large number of women being attended during their confinements by handy women. I have on two occasions had to interview women who, we were informed, were acting as Midwives without being certified; in both cases the women were able to substantiate more or less their claim that they only acted in an emergency; there has been no repetition of complaints with regard to either of these women. One of these complaints arose shortly after the suspension of the Midwife mentioned above; the introduction of a new Midwife into the town enabled us to tell expectant mothers that there was no danger of their being left without help at their confinement.

The Committee has always responded in a most satisfactory manner to the suggestions of their Medical Officer as to the need of provision of Subsidised Midwives; whether Midwives will of their own accord settle and practice in Dudley in sufficient numbers time will show, but it may be necessary in the future for the Corporation to share in the training of suitable women as Midwives by providing scholarships.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE.

Number of Infants attended during the year, 383.

Number of attendances, 1,576.

Number of Women attended for advice, 12.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme has been carried on very successfully during the year. During the first half of the year sessions were held twice a week at the Town Hall on Tuesday and Friday afternoons; the Health Visitors attended on Tuesday for the purpose of weighing the babies, and giving general advice, and the Medical Officer of Health attended on Friday afternoons for consultation and advice.

On July 15th an additional Centre was opened at the Public Hall, Netherton, on Tuesday afternoons; the Medical Officer of Health attends from 2.30—4. There is no doubt that these Centres are very popular with the mothers; they know the Health Visitor will be there at a definite time, and they can ask her about anything they fear is wrong with their babies, and if necessary can consult the doctor.

The supply of Infant foods, chiefly Glaxo, and Cow and Gate Food, at cost price, has been continued during the year, and has been a great benefit to many of the mothers and infants attending the Centres. During the year we have sold £212 worth of dried milk.

The Dudley Centre has now been removed from its cramped quarters at the Town Hall to "The Firs," where the facilities for increase of the work are abundantly available.

When an Assistant Medical Officer is at work it is proposed to increase the number of sessions at "The Firs." The Ministry of Health lay stress on the value of informal health talks to the mothers; these should be arranged. Classes in sewing and cookery for mothers at "The Firs" should eventually be arranged in concert with the Education Committee.

A feature which should be included in the scheme is the provision of a small Infants' Hospital. There is no period of life at which life can be more easily saved or lost than that of infancy;

a small Infants' Hospital would undoubtedly save the lives of some artificially-fed children, who go from bad to worse as the result of the mother's unwise feeding or inability to prepare the special dietary necessary in some cases. It is not usual to admit infants suffering from dietetic troubles into ordinary voluntary hospitals, which deal especially with operation cases and accidents.

The provision of beds for maternity cases has been considered by the Committee. The Corporation has made financial arrangements with Birmingham Institutions to admit cases of difficult labour and puerperal fever. These have been made use of during the last year, one woman in difficult labour and another with puerperal fever having been sent by ambulance into these Institutions by the Committee. Useful as are these arrangements, if women suffering from these complaints could be treated in a hospital in Dudley, where they would be within easy reach of their relations and friends, a greater number would, without any doubt, be willing to go into hospital. At present the length of the journey to hospital, and the formalities necessarily entailed before the patient can be sent, causes a delay when time is all important.

I have visited homes in the borough where women would shortly be confined; their state of cleanliness and the general circumstances have been such that rather than the women be confined in such surroundings I have suggested that they should go into the Dudley Union Infirmary for their confinement. In spite of the fact that admission into the Union Infirmary under such circumstances does not deprive the patient or her husband of their votes, they have invariably refused.

Under these circumstances it would seem that the Committee should provide a small number of maternity beds for cases of difficult labour, cases where the home circumstances are unfavourable, and for cases of puerperal fever. The private doctors engaged by the patients would doubtless be pleased to attend them at the hospital. For cases requiring operations of a severe character it would be necessary to retain the services of an operating surgeon, of whom there are several on the staff of the Guest Hospital. The grounds at "The Firs" afford ample space for building small

hospitals for maternity cases and infants ; although nurses attending to women suffering from puerperal fever might not be able to nurse cases of labour, their services could be used for the infants and children.

In some cases of still-births investigated during the past year it was evident that the pelvis of the mother was contracted ; the women had had previous still-births. Had these women been admitted to a Maternity Hospital at the proper time in all probability these lives would have been saved.

Leaflets on ante-natal hygiene, the feeding of babies and of young children, and summer diarrhœa, have been prepared and distributed at the Centres, and at the Health Visitors' visits. The co-operation of the Midwives and of the Badley Home Nurses has been secured in the distribution of these leaflets.

A card system has been introduced for recording the conditions found at the Health Visitors' visits to the homes, the notification of births card being used as a street index card to facilitate re-visiting. The facts relating to illegitimate children are entered on cards which are readily distinguished ; these children are visited twice as often as the other children. In this way we hope to prevent any neglect which might otherwise occur in the case of these children.

A card has been especially prepared for enquiries in the case of still-births ; from the facts thus ascertained the probable cause of the still-birth can be deduced and appropriate advice given.

### ANTE-NATAL HYGIENE.

When the Health Visitors learn of the pregnancy of a woman to whom their visits would be acceptable, they visit the expectant mother and give her advice suitable to her condition. She is advised how to maintain her health and with regard to the preparations to be made for the confinement, and for breast feeding. If a midwife or doctor has not already been engaged, the expectant mother is advised to engage her attendant without delay. A leaflet has been drawn up embodying suitable advice ; the midwives

asked to distribute these leaflets to the patients when they come to engage their services. Any expectant or nursing mother wishing to consult the Medical Officer at the Centre can do so.

As soon as we are able to undertake the work facilities should be provided for the examination of the urine of pregnant women. By this examination albuminuria of pregnancy would be discovered at an early stage when the disease is more amenable to treatment, and a considerable proportion of the cases of eclampsia now occurring would be prevented.

When this work is carried on, and later when maternity beds are provided, the concrete advantages offered should result in a greatly increased attendance of expectant mothers at the Centre.

It was previously the custom of several churches and chapels in Dudley to supply maternity bags for the use of mothers during confinement. During the war, owing to the better wages earned locally, the need of these bags became less; the altered conditions, however, make their re-establishment advisable. At present maternity bags are provided by the following religious bodies :—

St. John's Church ... Mrs. Yarsley, 10 Brown Street, Kate's Hill.  
King Street Congregational Church (2) ... Mrs. Lees, 246 Castle St

Probably at least two more maternity bags will be provided shortly. For the information of any other institution who might wish to consider the provision of such a bag the list of contents usually included is given below :—

For babies :—

- 4-5 Nightdresses.
- 4 Back Flannels.
- 4 Shirts.
- 4 Binders.
- 24 Napkins.
- 2 Squares made of non-flammable flannelette for putting over the baby's head.

For mother :—

- 2 Nightdresses.
- 2 Binders.

All these articles are made of brown (unbleached) calico, unless otherwise stated; they are usually loaned for four weeks, and required to be sent back clean and in the same condition as sent out; the responsibility for this lies with the patient. The articles are usually sent out in a linen bag.

A new feature of the Child Welfare Scheme is the arrangement made with the Badley Nurses' Home to provide a nurse to nurse in the homes special cases of measles, whooping cough, diarrhoea, poliomyelitis, or women with puerperal fever. The Committee will be charged 9d. for the first visit on any day, and 4d. for the second visit; a minimum payment of £60 will be paid. At the end of twelve months the arrangement will be re-considered. The Badley Nurses' Home Committee have engaged an additional nurse to help cope with this work; she will also be employed in the nursing of tuberculous patients in their homes by the Joint Tuberculosis Committee.

## HOUSING.

The number of dwelling houses in Dudley is approximately 12,000, of which 10,000 are houses for the working classes. No new houses for the working classes were erected during the year, or were in course of erection.

The estimated present population is 54,000; no immediate increase or decrease in connection with industrial changes is expected.

The survey of housing conditions and needs was duly made and sent to the Housing Commissioner of the Region before October 31st.

An estimate of the number of working class houses required during the next three years to :—

(a) Meet the unsatisfied demands for houses (taking account of growth of population, overcrowding, etc.) .. .. .	200 (and an additional 300 when temporary Huts no longer utilised).
(b) Re-house persons to be displaced by the clearance of unhealthy areas ... ..	149 estimated
(c) Replace other dwellings which are unfit for human habitation and cannot be made fit ..	751 ,,
(d) Replace obstructive or other buildings (now inhabited and not included under heading (c) which should be demolished ... ..	100 ,,
(e) Replace other houses which, although they cannot at present be regarded as unfit for human habitation, fall definitely below a reasonable standard ... ..	400 ,,
(f) Meet anticipated deficiencies, e.g., arising from new industrial development .. ..	
Total ...	1,600 & 1,900 when Huts discontinued.

2 Deduct—

(a) Working class houses which it is anticipated will be set free during the next three years as the result of any probable decrease in the population ... ..	Nil.
(b) Working class houses likely to be built during the next three years by persons other than the Local Authority ... ..	Nil.
Net Estimate of number of houses required	1,600 & 1,900 when Huts discontinued.

The Town Council have decided to build 1,900 houses, and the Borough Surveyor hopes to carry out the following time tables :—

Period ending Midsummer, 1921, to provide 365 houses.

„	„	1922	„	450	„
„	„	1923	„	535	„
„	„	1924	„	550	„
				<hr/>	
				1,900	
				<hr/>	

Two hundred of these houses will, however, be taken up in meeting the unsatisfied demand for houses. Of these 1,200 will consist of a living room, scullery, and three bedrooms; 500 a parlour, living room, scullery, and three bedrooms; and 200 a parlour, living room, scullery, and four bedrooms.

Two tenders have been provisionally accepted for the erection of 30 or more houses at the Buffery Road or other approved site, and 100 houses at the Blower's Green or other approved site.

On the first site the houses are to be completed as follows :—

5 Houses by June 30th, 1920.					
Further 10	„	„	July 31st,	1920.	
„ 12	„	„	Aug. 31st,	1920.	

and the remainder, not exceeding a total of 40, by September 30th, 1920.

On the second site the houses are to be completed as follows :—

12 houses by June 30th, 1920.					
Further 14	„	„	July 31st,	1920.	
„ 18	„	„	Aug. 31st,	1920.	
„ 20	„	„	Sept. 30th,	1920.	
„ 20	„	„	Oct. 31st,	1920.	

and the remainder not exceeding a total of 100 by November 20th, 1920

### **Overcrowding.**

Under the present circumstances it is inevitable that a certain amount of overcrowding must exist. The number of tenements with more than two occupants per room is about 100; these are occupied by about 700 persons.

### **Unhealthy Areas.**

The Birmingham Street area has been represented as unhealthy during the year. Its acreage is approximately  $4\frac{1}{2}$  acres; the number of unfit houses 149, and the approximate population 745.

When the houses are demolished part of the site would be required for widening Birmingham Street; on the remainder a restricted number of working class dwellings could with advantage be erected.

## **SLAUGHTER HOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION.**

Details of this work are given in Mr. Atkinson's Report. With respect to the Meat supplied in the Borough, there has been a considerable improvement both as regards quality and quantity as compared with 1918. A large proportion of the Meat supplied to the Borough was either American or Colonial.

## **WATER SUPPLY.**

The water supplied by the South Staffordshire Water Company has continued to be of excellent quality, and no instance of any shortage of quantity supplied has been brought to my notice during the year. The water continues to be analysed at regular intervals by the Borough Analyst, and his Reports are submitted to the Health Committee.

## STATISTICAL RETURNS.

The following tabular statements give a resumé of the work performed by the Health Visitors during the year :—

### TOWN AND KATE'S HILL DISTRICT (Nurse Evans).

#### BIRTHS, 1919.

BIRTHS	Males	Females	Total	BY WHOM NOTIFIED	Total
LIVE BIRTHS ... ..	439	432	871	Medical Practitioners Midwives ... .. Registrar ... .. Parents ... .. Monthly Nurse ... .. Health Visitor ... ..	191 451 223 5 2 9
STILL-BIRTHS ... ..	19	8	27	Medical Practitioners Midwives ..	9 18
ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN	10	6	16		16
Total ...	468	446	*914	Total ...	914

VISITS	No.	FEEDING	No.
1 First Visits to Babies ...	662	Breast Fed .. ...	523
2 Revisits to Babies ...	731	Bottle Fed ... ..	47
3 Visits over 1 year ...	1943	Breast and Bottle Fed ..	25
4 General Advice ...	376	Still-born ... ..	27
5 Visits to Midwives ...	84		
6 Measles ... ..	373	Total ..	622
7 Revisits to Measles ..	30		
8 Ante-Natal ... ..	45		
9 Revisits to Ante-Natal ...	12	MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE CENTRE	
10 House Inspection ...	49	No. of Attendances.	
11 Common Yards ... ..	25	New Cases      Old Cases      Total	
12 Ophthalmia Cases ...	3	288              896              1184	
13 Revisits to Ophth. Cases ...	3		
14 Tuberculosis Cases ..	90		
15 Revisits to Tuber. Cases...	34		
16 Visits to Illegitimate Babies	16		
17 Revisits to      „      „	60	No. of Women attended for Consultation and Advice	
Total ...	4486	12	

\* Certain of these were born in 1918, but owing to delay in notification were not visited until 1919.

# STATISTICAL RETURNS (Contd.)

NETHERTON AND WOODSIDE DISTRICT (Nurse Suiter).

## BIRTHS, 1919.

BIRTHS	Males	Females	Total	BY WHOM NOTIFIED	Total
LIVE BIRTHS ... ..	259	252	511	Medical Practitioners Midwives ... .. Health Visitor .. Registrar ... ..	82 321 13 95
STILL-BIRTHS ... ..	10	6	16	Medical Practitioners Midwives ... ..	11 5
ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN	5	6	11		11
Total ... ..	274	264	*538	Total ... ..	538

VISITS	No.	FEEDING	No.
1 First Visits to Babies ...	583	Breast Fed ... ..	494
2 Revisits to Babies ...	976	Bottle Fed ... ..	52
3 Visits over 1 year ...	1661	Breast and Bottle Fed ...	21
4 General Advice ... ..	390	Still-born ... ..	16
5 Visits to Midwives ...	70		
6 Measles ... ..	151	Total ... ..	583
7 Revisits to Measles...	33		
8 Ante-Natal First Visits ...	87		
9 Ante-Natal Revisits ...	35		
10 House Inspection ... ..	35		
11 Common Yards ... ..	21	MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE CENTRE	
12 Ophthalmia Cases ... ..	4	Attendances (since opening July 15th)	
13 Ophthalmia Revisits ..	6		
14 Tuberculosis... ..	16	New Cases      Old Cases      Total	
15 Tuberculosis Revisits ...	39	95                  297                  392	
16 Visits to Illegitimate Babies	11		
17 Revisits to      „      „	53		
Total ... ..	4171		

\* Certain of these were born in 1918, but owing to delay in notification were not visited until 1919.

In conclusion, I desire to express to the Council and the Health Committee my best thanks for the uniform courtesy and sympathetic consideration and support I have invariably received during the inauguration of the work as your first whole-time Medical Officer of Health.

My sincere thanks are also due to Dr. Wilkinson for his valuable assistance when handing over the Department, and also to Mr. Atkinson and the other officials of the Department.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C. W. HUTT.

May, 1920.

Table showing the comparative Mortality of certain Towns in 1919,  
and their Birth Rates.

	Population	Birth Rate per 1,000	Death Rate per 1,000	Zymotic Death Rate	Respira- tory Death Rate	Phthisis Death Rate	Infantile Death Rate
England and Wales	—	18·5	13·8	—	2·495	1·000	89
Burton-on-Trent	(a) 47,682 (b) 49,760	16·69	13·52	0·29	—	1·66	74
Wolverhampton	96,280	21·85	15·75	0·71	4·36	1·11	100
Burnley	102,391	15·6	15·16	0·61	3·67	·91	118
DUDLEY	54,000	24·2	13·44	·7	3·5	·89	103·3
Wigan	83,944	24·44	16·79	·78	1·96	1·07	117
Walsall	(a) 92,724 (b) 96,591	21·76	14·58	0·88	3·27	1·15	103·36
Worcester	51,000	16·5	12·5	0·25	2·23	1·10	61
Birmingham	910,000	20·9	13·0	—	2·67	1·10	84

(a) Estimate for Death Rate.

(b) Estimate for Birth Rate.

The number of Deaths from the principal Zymotic Diseases in the  
various Wards was:—

Diseases	St. Thomas	Castle	St. Edmund	St. James	St. John	Netherton	Woodside	Guest Hospital	Boro' Hospital
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	—	1	3	—	3	2	2	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	—
Enteric Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	5	2	1	—	2	1	2	—	—
Small Pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea ...	1	—	—	—	5	2	2	—	—

Deaths from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases were :—

Diseases	Total Deaths	Under 5 years	5 years and upwards
Scarlet Fever    ...    ...    ...	—	—	—
Measles        ...    ...    ...	11	10	1
Diphtheria     ...    ..    ...	4	3	1
Enteric Fever    ...    ...    ...	—	—	—
Whooping Cough    ...    ..    ..	13	12	1
Small Pox        ...    ...    ...	—	—	—
Diarrhoea        ...    ...    ...	10	7	1

# DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGE PERIODS.

The subjoined table gives the Deaths at various age periods for the last fourteen years.

	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919
Under 1 year ..	247	250	228	212	193	214	162	218	209	181	154	153	179	135
Between 1 and 5 years	107	159	102	142	102	120	65	145	103	102	89	118	140	77
Between 5 and 15 yrs.	44	46	32	49	24	28	34	38	37	32	36	50	71	28
Between 15 and 25 yrs.	33	33	34	33	24	32	33	37	32	25	42	30	53	35
Between 25 and 65 yrs.	233	249	245	227	233	223	265	277	260	271	240	254	341	228
Over 65 years ...	183	167	172	165	156	193	238	196	205	247	226	182	175	222

# TABLE III.

## DUDLEY COUNTY BOROUGH.

### CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1919.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths of "Residents," whether in or beyond district								Total Deaths in Institutions in the District
	All ages	Under 1 Year	1 and Under 2	2 and Under 5	5 and Under 15	15 and Under 25	25 and Under 45	45 and Under 65	65 and upwards
All causes { Certified ... Uncertified ...	726	135	41	36	28	35	94	134	222
Enteric Fever ...									
Measles...	11	3	3	4	1				
Scarlet fever ...									
Whooping-cough ...	13	7	3	2	1				
Diphtheria and Croup ...	2			1	1				2
Influenza ...	32	1		1	4	7	10	4	5
Erysipelas ...									
Meningitis ...									
Organic Heart Disease ...	35						9	11	15
Phthisis (Pul'ary Tuberculosis)	48			1	6	9	22	9	1
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	4	1			1	2			1
Other Tuberculous diseases	4		1	1				2	
Rheumatic Fever ...	3					1	2		
Cancer, Malignant disease	39						3	22	14

Bronchitis ... ..	120	19	9	7	1	1	5	25	53	1
Broncho Pneumonia ... ..	6	3	1				1	1		
Pneumonia(all other forms)	59	10	11	12	4	2	9	7	4	1
Other diseases of the Respiratory organs ...	4			1	1	1			1	
Diarrhoea and Enteritis ..	11	5	2	1		1	1		1	
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	3					1	2			2
Alcoholism ... ..	1							1		
Cirrhosis of Liver ... ..	2							1	1	
Nephritis and Bright's Disease ... ..	16				1		6	6	3	1
Puerperal fever... ..	2						2			
Other accidents & diseases of pregnancy and par- turition	2						2			1
Congenital Debility ..	60	59	1							4
Violent Deaths ... ..	32	2	1	4	1	3	2	9	10	28
Suicides ... ..	4						1	1	2	
Other defined diseases ...	148	8	3	1	6	6	9	30	85	16
Diseases unknown or ill- defined ... ..	65	17	6			1	8	5	28	8
Totals ... ..	726	135	41	36	28	35	94	134	222	70

The Summary of Notifications under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1912, is appended:—

COUNTY BOROUGH OF DUDLEY.

**PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1912.**

Summary of Notifications during the period from the 29th December, 1918, to the 3rd January, 1920.

	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED ON FORM A											NO. OF CASES NOTIFIED ON FORM C.		NOTIFICATIONS ON FORM B.		
												Poor Law Institutions	Sanatoria	5 to 10	10 to 15	Total primary Notifications
	0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and upwards	Totals				
Age periods ...	—	—	4	—	—	2	3	—	2	1	—	12	—	1	1	2
Pulmonary Males ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	—	—	—
"    Females	—	—	1	1	1	6	2	1	—	—	—	12	7	5	1	6
Non-Pulmonary Males ...	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	3	—	3
"    Females	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	—	1	5	1	3	8	5	1	2	1	—	27	19	9	2	11

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1919.

---

*To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to lay before you my Sixteenth Annual Report and Summary of work done in my Department during the year ending 31st December, 1919.

### SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT.

Houses provided with proper Water Closets	...	...	2
Houses provided with proper Drainage	...	...	9
Water Closets or Drains cleansed, repaired, or reconstructed	...	...	148
Accumulation of Manure, etc., removed	...	...	3
Ashes, accommodation provided	...	...	81
Cases of Overcrowding dealt with	...	...	4
Bakehouses limewashed	...	...	4
Workshops cleansed and limewashed	...	...	8

## Sanitary Conveniences in Factories or Workshops :—

New provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Separate Accommodation for Females provided	...						2
Washhouses rebuilt, repaired, or new sinks provided	...						16
Dwelling Houses repaired	...	...	...	...	...		54
Dwelling Houses cleansed	...	...	...	...	...		63
Houses provided with Spouting (where a nuisance)	...						4
Yard Paving relaid or repaired	...	...	...	...	...		2
Miscellaneous nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...		9
Preliminary Notices issued	...	...	...	...	...		243
Statutory Notices issued	...	...	...	...	...		126

**FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.**

There are at present 551 Workshops on the Register, including 56 Bakehouses. During the year ending 31st December, 1919, 1,003 visits of inspection were made, and a number of minor defects remedied, upon the occupiers' notice being called thereto.

Eleven "Notices of Occupation" were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories, which were in due course visited and entered on the Register.

"Separate Sanitary Conveniences" for females were provided in two cases, "New Conveniences" provided in two cases; in six cases the Conveniences were repaired, and in three cases it was necessary to take action on account of the dirty condition. Eight Workshops were cleansed and limewashed upon notice being given to the occupier.

It was necessary to take action in four cases where Bakehouses were in a dirty condition.

During the year ending December 31st, 1919, 22 complaints were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories with regard to defects or defaults in Factories or Workshops. In 17 cases the matters complained of were remedied, in one case no action was taken, and in four cases the matters complained of were being remedied at the close of the year.

### OUTWORKERS.

During the year 35 lists of Outworkers have been received from Employers, containing 489 names and addresses, 283 of which were outside the Borough of Dudley. The names and addresses of those persons outside the Borough were forwarded to the respective Councils in whose district they resided; 141 visits were paid to Outworkers' premises.

In addition to the above, 12 lists containing 24 names and addresses, have been received from other Councils, making a total list of 513 Outworkers dealt with. It was necessary in 28 instances to caution employers for not sending in their lists of Outworkers as required by the Factory and Workshop Act.

No case came under my notice of work being done upon infected premises during the year ending December 31st, 1919.

The following is a list of trades carried on in the Workshops :

Joinery ... .. 7	Clog Making ... 1	Boat Building ... 3
Bellows ... .. 1	Art Metal ... 3	Florists ... .. 1
Dress and Millinery 55	Gas Fittings ... 2	Umbrellas ... .. 1
Ashpans, etc. ... 4	Paints, etc. ... 2	Galvanizing ... 2
Boots ... .. 30	Breeze Making ... 9	Fenders ... .. 2
Tailoring ... .. 41	Blacklead Pressing 1	Tea Packing ... 1
Wheelwright ... 5	Rivets ... .. 1	Chain ... .. 168
Sugar Boiling ... 1	Fellmonger ... 1	Nails ... .. 84
Engineering ... 1	Jeweller ... .. 1	Carpenters ... .. 3
Knitting ... .. 1	Blacksmith ... 9	Sheet Iron ... .. 3
Picture Frames ... 1	Upholsterers ... 4	Rope and Tents ... 3
Plumbers ... .. 1	Mason ... .. 1	Basket Making ... 1
Cycles ... .. 2	Polishing ... .. 1	Saddlers ... .. 4
Pattern Makers ... 1	Stone Breaking ... 2	Bottling ... .. 2
Currier ... .. 1	Drugs ... .. 2	Drysoap Mixing ... 1
Crates ... .. 2	Dyeing ... .. 1	Brewing ... .. 2
Staple Making ... 1	Carriage Building 2	Scales and Weights 1
Printing ... .. 1	Tinware ... .. 1	Bakers ... .. 56
Cooper ... .. 1	Builders ... .. 3	
Ragsorting ... 2	Cabinet Maker ... 7	

### COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are at present 14 Registered Common Lodging Houses within the Borough, accommodating 282 persons.

During the year ending December 31st, 1919, 879 inspections were made of these houses, and minor defects remedied upon attention being called to the same.

It was necessary to take action in three cases for want of proper ashes accommodation.

During the year 1919 one Lodging House was closed, while two were converted into a "House let in Lodgings," and eight applications for re-registration were granted.

There are now eight Common Lodging Houses which are registered only from year to year. All houses are visited weekly and the Bye-laws posted in the kitchen of every house, showing the maximum number of lodgers to be accommodated.

Every Lodging House is swept daily, floors washed weekly, and the premises limewashed throughout at least twice a year.

The conditions existing are in accordance with the type of lodger accommodated, and where the worst type are not admitted the Houses are kept in excellent condition as regards general cleanliness.

No case of infectious disease occurred in any of these Houses during the year.

### SLAUGHTER HOUSE AND FOOD INSPECTION.

There are 14 "Registered" and 10 "licensed" Slaughter Houses within the Borough, all of which are kept under observation. Owing to food restrictions few of these have been in use during the year.

During the year 10 applications for renewal of Licences were granted.

All Slaughter Houses, Markets and Shops where food is sold have been regularly visited.

Two pigs, one calf, one goat, one sheep, two lambs, 141lbs. frozen beef, 15 tins of corned beef, 38 shoulders of bacon, 4 hampers of rabbits, 85 cases of tinned milk, 52 nets of cabbages, and a quantity of organs and offal were surrendered to your Inspector as being unfit for human food and destroyed.

The inspection of meat will always be extremely difficult until all private Slaughter Houses are abolished and public Abattoirs are universal.

### **DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.**

There are 39 Cowkeepers (who also act as Milksellers), and 47 Milksellers on the Register, the approximate number of cows kept within the Borough being 387.

All Cowsheds and Milkshops have been visited at least twice during the year, and attention called to minor defects and want of cleanliness where necessary.

There are still many old wooden Cowsheds existing which are far from satisfactory, and there are at times many of them overcrowded, if the cubic capacity of 800 feet be insisted on for each cow.

When visiting Milkshops have always pointed out the danger of pollution from dust, etc., and the advisability of keeping all milk in covered containers.

### **INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND DISINFECTION.**

All cases of Infectious Disease have been visited, and a printed copy of your Medical Officer's instructions left at each house. Infected bedding and clothing have been removed to the Borough Hospital and steam disinfected, and the infected rooms sprayed with disinfectant and fumigated.

The cases of Tuberculosis notified under the Public Health Tuberculosis Regulations, 1912, have been visited, and endeavours made to point out the risk of infection to the other occupants of the house, and how best to avoid it. In all cases disinfectants have been offered, and the houses and clothing disinfected.

During the year 63 beds, 51 bolsters, 138 pillows, 59 blankets, 56 sheets, 26 counterpanes, and a quantity of miscellaneous clothing, cushions, carpets and curtains were removed to the Hospital for disinfection.

### DESTRUCTIVE INSECTS AND PESTS ACTS.

At the suggestion of the Board of Agriculture, I was appointed under the above Acts as Local Inspector for the purposes of the American Gooseberry Mildew (Fruit Order), 1912, and the Wart Disease of Potato Order.

During the season circulars with respect to the Gooseberry Mildew Order were distributed to the fruiterers, but no infected fruit was found within the Borough. Posters and leaflets were distributed throughout the area where potatoes were grown as regards the Potato Wart Disease, and the dangers involved if the scheduled precautions were disregarded. No cases were brought to notice within the district.

### CANAL BOAT INSPECTION.

During the year ending 31st December, 1919, periodical inspections have been made of the Boats passing through this district, the number of Boats inspected being 16. The infringements of the Acts and Regulations discovered and dealt with were as follows :—

Lettering Defaced	...	...	1
Dirty Cabin	...	...	1
Leaky Cabins	...	...	3

5 Infringements on 3 Boats.

No case of Infectious Disease has been reported on any Boat; there has not been any necessity to detain a single Boat for disinfection or cleansing, nor have any legal proceedings been taken under the Canal Boats Acts.

## CONVERSION OF PRIVY MIDDENS.

During the past year two Dwelling Houses were provided with water closets, where the accommodation was found to be insufficient in consequence of action taken by your Committee. This makes a total of 6,925 Dwelling Houses provided with water closets during the past sixteen years.

This is the lowest number of conversions during the past sixteen years, and with the exception of a few isolated cases, and such districts as Yew Tree Hill and Gads Green, where there are no proper sewers, the Borough may now be considered a water closet town.

There are within the Borough (approximately) 11,960 Dwelling Houses, of which only 348 are supplied with privy middens; and 331 Hutments and several Hostels built by the Ministry of Munitions.

## DESTRUCTOR.

The Destructor has been most beneficial in abolishing the complaints of offensive smells from the tips, more especially the Dock Tip, and the appearance of that vicinity has been much improved owing to light rubbish being now burnt, which was formerly blown all over the neighbourhood.

During the year ending December 31st, 1919, 2,625 loads of ashpit and dust-bin refuse, 229 loads of trade refuse, 955 tubs of fish offal, 3 loads of butchers' offal, 115 loads of fruiterers' refuse, 174 loads of market garbage, 40 dogs, 2 pigs, 2 lambs, 1 sheep, 1 calf, 1 goat, 4 hampers of rabbits, and a fairly large amount of diseased meat and bacon, unsound fruit, vegetables, milk and fish, which had been seized or surrendered, were burnt in the Destructor.

There has not been any complaint as regards nuisance arising from the Destructor.

All old tins and glass are sorted from the rubbish previous to burning, but cannot find a purchaser to remove it.

### **HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING, &c., ACTS.**

Owing to the existing conditions, there has been very little work done under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, and no houses have been closed.

### **GENERAL REMARKS.**

It will be seen from the " Summary of Work carried out " at the beginning of the Report, that 369 Notices have been served during the past year, and only two houses were supplied with water closets.

I find that there are now only 348 houses provided with privy middens, practically all of which are in the outlying districts, where there are no sewers.

There is a decided shortage of houses within the Borough, and where notices have been served in cases of overcrowding there has been great difficulty in the occupants finding other houses.

Owing to the present conditions it has been impossible to carry out work as usual, and on the instructions of your Committee every allowance has been made where work could stand over.

### **FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.**

I beg to report as follows with regard to the work carried out under the Food and Drugs Acts during the year ending December 31st, 1919.

During the year 117 samples, consisting of 27 articles, were taken by me for analysis. Of these, 6 samples were adulterated as undermentioned :—

- 1.—New Milk. Deficient of 4% of its non-fatty solids. Official.
- 2.—New Milk. Deficient of 4% of its none-fatty solids. Official.
- 3.—New Milk. 12% added water. Official. Warranty produced, further samples taken at place of delivery.
- 4.—New Milk. 11% added water. Official. Prosecution. Vendor fined £10, and 10s. 6d. Analyst's fee.
- 5.—New Milk. 16% added water. Official. Taken at place of delivery. Vendor fined £20.
- 6.—New Milk. 10% added water. Official. Taken at place of delivery. Vendor fined £20.

Of the 20 samples of milk submitted to your Analyst, 6 were found to be adulterated. In two cases the milk was found to be deficient of 4% of its non-fatty solids, and one of these samples was taken at the time of milking; no action was taken in these cases.

In one case the milk was certified as containing 12% of added water, but as the vendor held a warranty, no action was taken, but further samples (No. 5 and 6) were taken in course of delivery.

One case was certified as containing 11% of added water, and the vendor was fined £10, and 10s. 6d. Analyst's fee.

In two other cases the farmer sending the milk into the Borough was fined £20 in each case.

The five samples of butter were found to be genuine and free from preservatives. This, I think, is very satisfactory.

The South Staffordshire water has been analysed five times, and as one sample was not of the usual high standard, a bacteriological examination was made, and the result communicated to the South Staffordshire Water Works Company.

## Samples taken for analysis :—

1	Cocoa	2	Self Raising Flour
2	Mustard	5	Butter
12	Margarine	18	Coffee
4	Custard Powder	17	Condensed Milk
3	Castor Oil	2	Licorice Powder
1	Turpentine	1	Cheese
2	Epsom Salts	9	Baking Powder
2	Camphorated Oil	20	New Milk
6	Pepper	1	Camphor and Oil
1	Eucalyptus Oil	1	Carbonate of Magnesia
1	Corn Flour	1	Citron of Magnesia
1	Rangoon Rice	1	Boracic Acid
1	Castor Oil Tablets	1	Lard
1	Evaporated Milk		

In concluding my Sixteenth Annual Report, I again wish to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their continued confidence, to acknowledge assistance received from the Officials in the other departments, and to thank the Staff of the Health Department for their loyal co-operation.

I remain, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

**FRED ATKINSON, M.S.I.A.,**

Assoc. R. San. Inst.,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

# ANNUAL REPORT

ON

## HOUSE REFUSE REMOVAL

FOR THE YEAR 1919.

---

*To the Chairman and Members of the Team Committee.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to lay before you my Report on House Refuse Removal for the year ending 31st December, 1919.

### **HORSES.**

During the year one additional Horse was purchased, making the number of horses now kept for the collection of dust-bin refuse to be six.

### **CARTS.**

There are now, in the Health Department, thirteen carts (including six used by the Contractor), two having been purchased during the year to cope with the increased refuse to be collected.

Four of the six carts used exclusively for the collection of dust-bin refuse are covered with a light tarpaulin, a method which I consider has proved satisfactory.

### COLLECTION OF REFUSE.

Six teams are wholly employed in dealing with the collection of dust-bin refuse in the Town, Kate's Hill, Netherton, and Woodside Districts, the dust-bins of the whole Borough being collected by the Corporation workmen.

In the principal streets the dust-bins are emptied twice a week, and the remainder are dealt with weekly.

The ashpits in the whole Borough are now dealt with by a contractor.

During the year ending December 31st, 1919, no Trade Refuse was removed by the Corporation.

Herewith is a summary of work carried out :—

TOWN AND KATE'S HILL		NETHERTON		WOODSIDE	
Ashpits emptied during the year ending Dec. 31st, 1919	Dust Bins emptied once or twice weekly, Dec. 31st, 1919	Ashpits emptied during the year ending Dec. 31st, 1919	Dust Bins emptied weekly Dec. 31st, 1919	Ashpits emptied during the year ending Dec. 31st, 1919	Dust Bins emptied weekly, Dec. 31st, 1919
4,937	3,300	3,118	880	992	665

The number of loads removed during the year from dust-bins by the Corporation workmen were 11,181. In addition to the above refuse, 1,088 loads of clinker were removed from the Destructor during the year ending December 31st, 1919.

### REMARKS.

The dust-bins have slightly been increased in number, 33 additional bins being added during the year ending December 31st, 1919.

The collection of dust-bins by the Corporation workmen is, I am sure, better carried out, and can be more efficiently supervised than when it is let out to contract.

The emptying of ashpits can be readily supervised when this work is done by contract, and the present contractor has again carried out his work very well indeed under exceptional difficulties.

The emptying of ashpits in the whole of the Borough is now done by contract. Of the 11,960 dwelling houses within the Borough, only 348 houses are supplied with privy middens, practically all of which are in the outlying districts where there are no sewers.

Owing to the progressive policy of the Health Committee with regard to the conversion of privy middens, there is now very little nuisance created in the removal of House Refuse.

In conclusion, I wish to be permitted again to thank the Chairman and Members of the Team Committee for their support during the past year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

**FRED ATKINSON, M.S.I.A.,**

Assoc. R. San. Inst.,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

**TABLE V.****Factories, Workshops Laundries, Workplaces and Home Work.****1.—INSPECTION.**

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector or Inspector of Nuisances.

PREMISES	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
FACTORIES ... .. (including Factory Laundries)	43	11	...
WORKSHOPS ... .. (including Workshop Laundries)	1003	10	...
WORKPLACES ... .. (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	...	...	...
TOTAL ...	1046	21	...

**2.—DEFECTS FOUND.**

PARTICULARS	Number of Defects			No. of Prosecu- tions
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—</i>				
Want of Cleanliness	...	...	...	...
Want of Ventilation	...	...	...	...
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...
Want of drainage of floors	...	...	...	...
Other nuisances	...	...	...	...
Sanitary accommo- dation	insufficient	...	...	...
	unsuitable or defective	...	...	...
	not separate for sexes	...	...	...
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act:—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)	...	...	...	...
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bake- houses (ss. 97 to 100)	...	...	...	...
Other offences ... (excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report)	...	...	...	...
TOTAL	...	...	...	...

TABLE V.—Continued.

3.—HOME WORK.

NATURE OF WORK	OUTWORKERS' LISTS, SECTION 107										OUTWORK IN UNWHOLE-SOME PREMISES, SECTION 108			OUTWORK IN INFECTED PREMISES, SECTIONS 109, 110						
	Lists received from Employers				Numbers of Addresses of Out-workers received from other Councils	Number of Addresses of Out-workers forwarded to other Councils	Prosecutions		Number of Inspections of Out-workers' premises	In-stances	Notices served	Prosecutions	In-stances	Orders made (S. 110)	Prosecution (Sec. 109, 110)					
	Twice in the year		Once in the year				Failing to keep or permit inspection of lists.	Failing to send lists												
	Lists	Out-workers	Lists	Out-workers	(2)	(3)			(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)
(1)																				
Wearing Apparel— (1) making, &c.	20	142	2	3	12	108	..	28 employers cautioned	47	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Furniture & Upholst'y	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
File Making	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cables and Chains	12	340	1	4	12	175	..	..	94	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
TOTAL	32	482	3	7	24	283	..	..	141	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year		Class		No.
(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)	
General Workshops	..	Matters Notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories:— Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133)... Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 5) Other .. .. .		..
Workshop Bakehouses	..			29
		Underground Bakehouses (s. 101):— Certificates granted during the year In use at the end of the year		25
TOTAL	..			3

**Report of Administration in connection with  
the Public Health (Milk and Cream)  
Regulations, 1912 & 1917.**

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31st, 1919.

*1. Milk ; and Cream not sold as prepared Cream.*

	Number of Samples examined for the presence of a preservative	Number in which a preservative was reported to be present
Milk ...	20	—
Cream ..	—	—

*2. Cream sold as Preserved Cream.*

(a) Instances in which samples have been submitted for analysis to ascertain if the statements on the label as to preservatives were correct—

(i) Correct statements made	...	..	0
(ii) Statements incorrect	...	...	0
			—
Total	...	...	0

(b) Determination made of milk fat in cream sold as preserved cream—

(i) Above 35 per cent.	...	...	...	0
(ii) Below 35 per cent.	...	...	...	0
				—
Total	...	...	...	0



